

**FEMALE CONDOM EMPLOYING TENSEGRITY PRINCIPLE****ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Employing the known “tensegrity” principle, a female condom is configured such that when the condom is inserted into a woman’s vagina, the woman’s introitus acts on a proximal section of an elongated pouch extending between internal and external biasing members (e.g., rings) of the condom. Inward compressive forces exerted by the introitus on the inner ring of the condom cause the inner ring to be pushed distally within the vaginal canal, and the proximal pouch section to become a tension member pulling against the external ring. This causes a “tenting” of the proximal pouch section against the introitus. The resulting interaction of compression and tensile forces (a tensegrity effect) serves to provide the condom with a high degree of internal and external stability, including resistance to twisting and slippage.

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